

# Bridging the Gap: New Americans and Cultural Considerations in the Language We Use



COLUMBUS  
PUBLIC HEALTH

EMBRACING HEALTH EQUITY  
TRAINING SERIES

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# Guidelines

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Diverse Cultures

Social & Economic Impact

Highlight of Entrepreneurs

New Americans

Disparity Gaps

Strategies on Engagement

Cultural Inclusivity Moving Forward

*“He who steps on the soils of many nations has many adventures. He who cares for his family and neighbors to the best of his ability also has many adventures” – African Proverb*

# Central Ohio Communities/Cultures

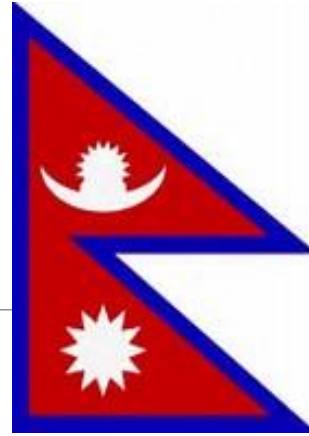
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*Our neighbors and what makes them unique*





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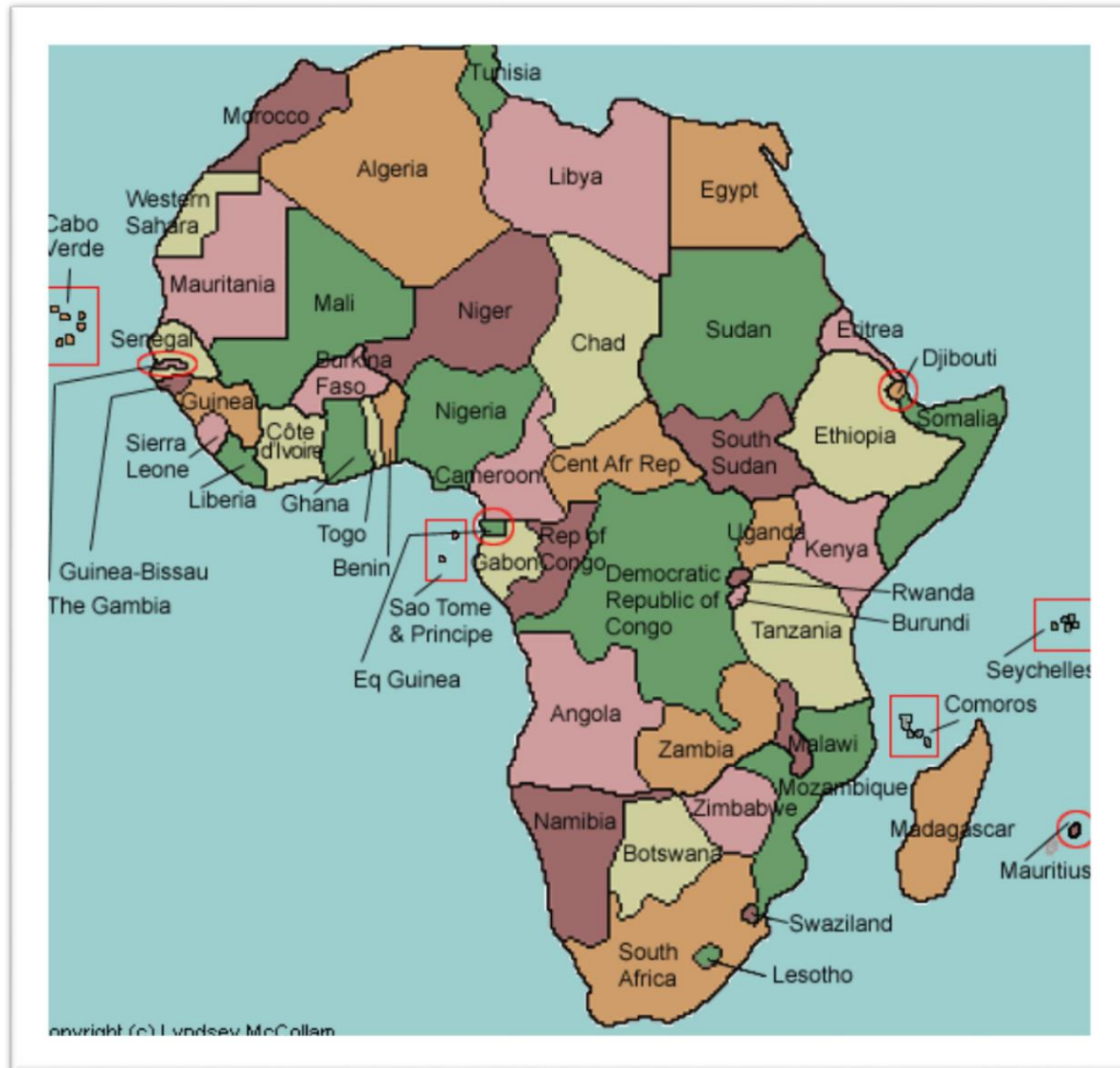








# Travelling to Ohio





# Social & Economic Impact

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Little Mogadishu (Columbus)

Little Kinshasa (Dayton)

Little Monrovia (Whitehall)

Little Kathmandu (Columbus,  
Reynoldsburg)

Little Baghdad (Hilliard)

- Hundreds of Businesses in more than 25 counties across Ohio, especially Franklin County - spanning from grocery stores, restaurants, clinics, insurance, etc.
  - This 4% makes up 7% (27,621 residents) of Ohio's entrepreneurs (spending power \$11.1 billion in 2014)
  - Franklin County population (78,289 – 10.7%)
  - 122,404 Ohio residents are employed at an immigrant owned business
  - Earned \$15.6 billion (2014) - \$1.3 billion in state/local taxes - \$3.1 billion in federal taxes
  - \$421.1 million to Medicare - \$1.5 billion in Social Security
- Undocumented immigrants in Ohio account for approximately 97,916 taxpayers earning a total of \$11.5 billion in 2014.

# Corridors of Success Stories

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**Lalibela Restaurant – Eastside (Hamilton Ave.)**

**Namaste – Morse Rd.**

**Banadir Cuisine – Cleveland Ave.**

**Dabakh – Morse Rd.**

**African Supermarket – Livingston Ave.**

**West International Café – Sullivant Ave.**

**Global Malls in Northeast, Linden, and Westside**



# New Americans – lets talk about this!

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New American vs. Old American (what it means to different people)

Immigrant (Bangladesh Immigrant)

Refugee (Congolese Refugee)

# Critical to Understand

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## Existing Disparity Gaps:

- Bantu Somalis in Wedgewood
- Elderly Bhutanese/Nepali with Depression - Suicide Rate
- Words that don't exist in some languages, ex. hallucinations versus headache
- Dealing with stigmatism, specially with mental health (all communities)
- People not knowing what resources exist and how they can take advantage of them
- Considering family structures, ex. women/children engaging with or w/o male of household



# Strategies on Engagement

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If your working with someone, you must let them tell you who they are and what they need.

Being Trauma Informed is crucial to being supportive

Refugee PTSD impacted versus economic migrants hiding from ICE

# Cultural Inclusivity Moving Forward

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- Cultural Understanding versus Cultural Competency

- What should ENGAGEMENT look like:

- Short term

- Establishing relations, listening, and asking questions -sometimes its not what you ask, its how you ask it.

- Long term

- Inclusive hiring, incorporating learned lessons into established practice



# Culture Shock + Compassion = Community

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*“Recognition of diversity is to cultural exchange as embracing our difference is to societal inclusiveness” - Sow*

## Questions

CPH Health Diversity & Equity Committee & Class,

**Thanks**

